(ग) अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय ट्रंक काल कनेक्शनों की औसत दर लगभग 28% है और प्रति हजार कनेक्शनों पर काम करने वाले कर्मचारियों की संख्या लगभग 73 है।

(घ) जी नहीं।

Various Irrigation Projects from Andhra Pradesh

967. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress made in respect of the following irrigation projects proposed by the Government of Andhra Pradesh;

(i) Jurala Project, (ii) Vamsadhara Project Stage II, (iii) Janjhavathi Project;

(b) whether the above projects are kept in the list of pending projects to be taken up during the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(c) if so, by when further work on them is expected to be taken up; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) to (d) While Jurala Project has been found acceptable by the Advisory Committee subject to, among others, State Government's obtaining clearance from environmental and forest angles, Vamsadhara Stage-II though techno-economically appraised needs resolution of inter-State issue and also the State Government is required to obtain environmental and forest clearance. For Janjhavati project, State Government is required to resubmit the report after complying with the observations of the Central appraising agencies. The State Government has included these projects in their VIII Plan document.

Declaration of National Highways in Gujarat

968. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister OF SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposals for new National Highways in Gujarat State; if so, which roads are proposed to be declared National Highways;

(b) by what time roads will be declared National Highways in Gujarat during the Eighth Five Year Plan period; and

(c) whether Government intend to include this proposal during Eighth Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) to (c) Proposals have been received from the Government of Gujarat for declaring some roads as National Highways. As the 8th Plan is not yet finalised, it is too early to specify by when and which roads would be added to the National Highway grid.

Conversion of Coastal Highway in National Highway

969. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the 12th meeting of Western Zonal Council, it was recommended to convert Coastal Highway from Lakhpat to Umargaon as National Highway;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the extension of National Highway 15 to Bhhuj-Khavda-India Bridge and National Highway 8A from Kandla Nandvi-Narayan Sarovar are recommended by the Gujarat Government; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It has not been possible to take a general decision on the declaration of new National Highways as the 8th Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised.